



## Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Texas

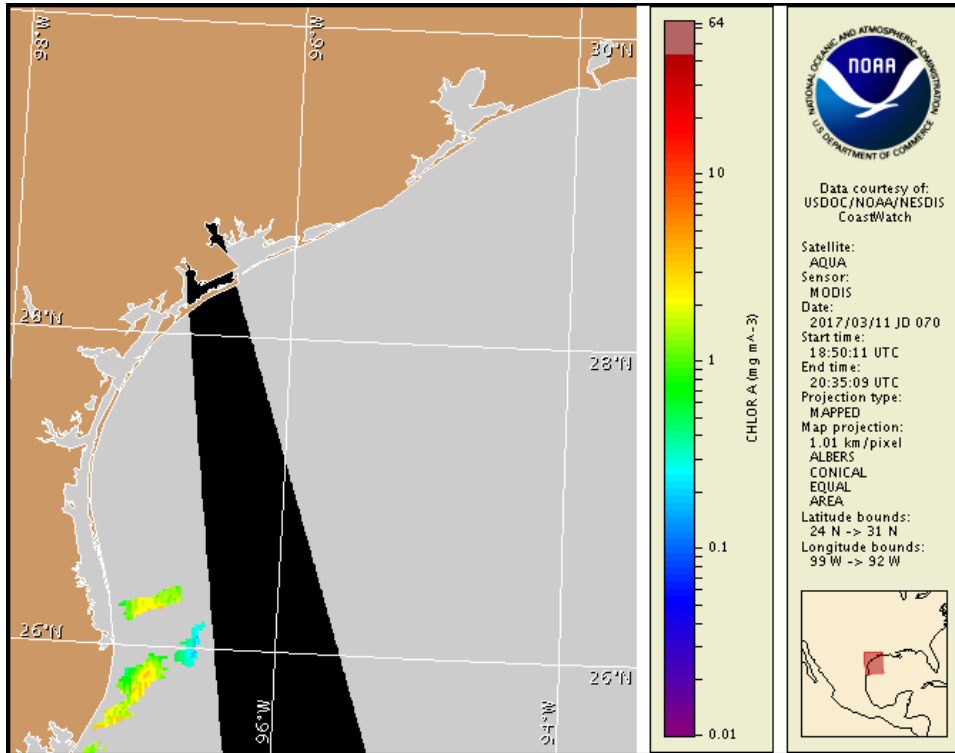
Monday, 13 March 2017

NOAA National Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Monday, March 6, 2017



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible *K. brevis* HAB areas shown by red polygon(s), when applicable. Points represent cell concentration sampling data from March 3 to 10: red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue (very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). Cell count data are provided by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. For a list of sample providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HAB-OFS bulletin guide:

[http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/hab\\_publication/habfs\\_bulletin\\_guide.pdf](http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/hab_publication/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf)

Detailed sample information can be obtained through the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department at:

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landwater/water/envconcerns/hab/redtide/status.phtml>

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit the NOAA Harmful Algal Bloom Operational Forecast System bulletin archive:

<http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html>

## Conditions Report

*Karenia brevis* (commonly known as Texas red tide) ranges from background to very low concentrations along the coast of Texas. No respiratory irritation is expected Monday, March 13 through Monday, March 20.

Check [https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/beach\\_conditions.html](https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/beach_conditions.html) for recent, local observations.

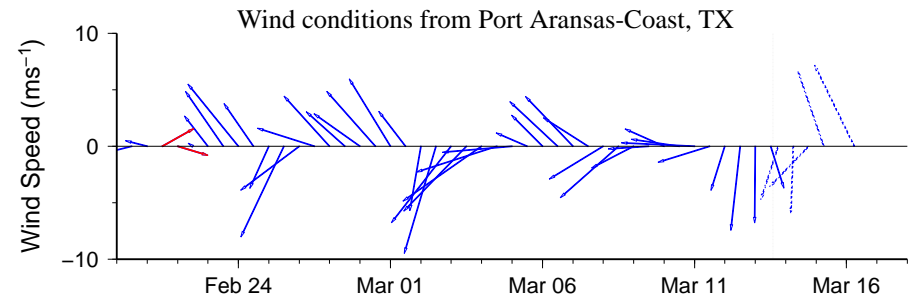
## Analysis

Sampling from the Texas A&M University's Imaging FlowCytobot (IFCB), located on the Port Aransas ship channel, indicates that *Karenia brevis* concentrations range between 'background' to 'very low a' (TAMU; 3/6-3/13). For information on area shellfish restrictions, contact the Texas Department of State Health Services.

Recent MODIS Aqua ensemble imagery has been obscured by clouds alongshore the Texas coast from Sabine Pass to the Rio Grande, preventing analysis.

Forecast models based on predicted near-surface currents indicate a potential maximum transport of 70 km south from the Port Aransas region from March 11 through March 16.

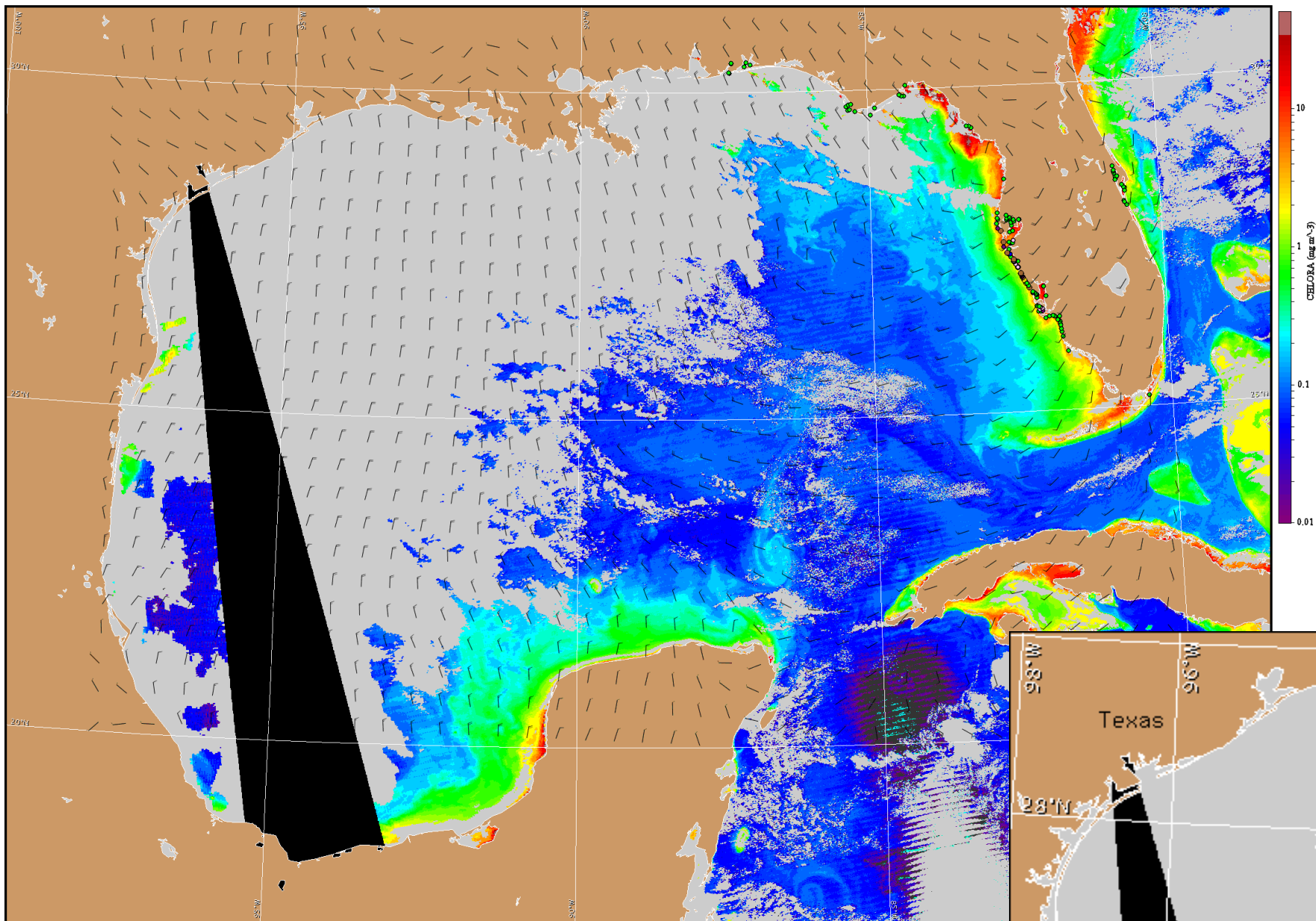
Urizar, Keeney



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts. Wind observation and forecast data provided by NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS).

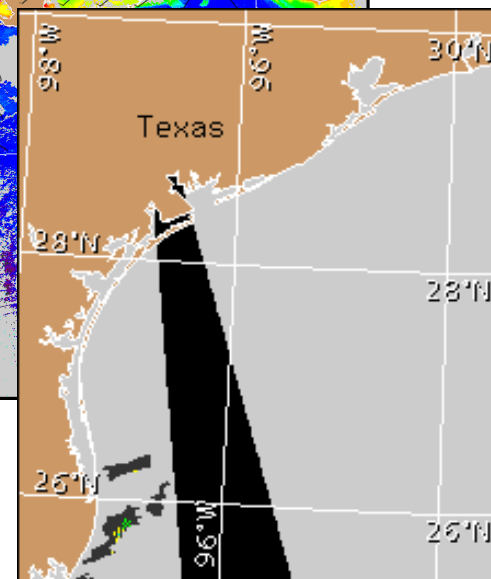
## Wind Analysis

**Port Aransas to Matagorda Ship Channel:** North winds today (5-15 kn, 3-8 m/s). Northeast to east winds Tuesday (5-15 kn). Southeast winds (10-20 kn, 5-10 m/s) Tuesday night through Friday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for March 14, 2017 06Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from March 3 to 10: red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue (very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). Cell count data are provided by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. For a list of sample providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HAB-OFS bulletin guide:

[http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/hab\\_publication/habfs\\_bulletin\\_guide.pdf](http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/hab_publication/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf)



Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas with *K. brevis* optical characteristics shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).